

# Mid-State Amateur Radio Club



President: Joe Vergara EA9ZPA  
Vice Pres: Keith Coboon K9PDI  
Secretary: Bob Dales WB9AYH  
Treasurer: Mac McCarty NV9K  
Repeater Trustee: David Julian WB9YIG



WB9YIG/R  
146.835

## The Spark Gap

MAY 1992

### UPGRADES FROM THE APRIL VE TESTING

Jim Anderson N9KVX	Columbus	Extra
Stephen Blinn	Danville	NC Tech
Andy Bowyer N9KZE	Indianapolis*	Advanced
G. Collins N9LAQ	Seymour	General
Linda Ennis	Bargersville	Novice
Mike Holland N9NTQ	Whiteland*	General
Dennis Lee	Hope	NC Tech
Michael Parks	Columbus	Tech
Vernie Parton	Whiteland	NC Tech
Greg Prewitt	Columbus	Tech
Mark Schaefer	Indianapolis	NC Tech
Ralph Talbott	Indianapolis*	Tech
Greg Tatlock	Seymour	NC Tech
Carolyn Taylor	Greenwood	NC Tech
Glen Waldkoetter	N. Vernon	NC Tech

\* indicates a member of Mid-State

### APRIL MEETING DRAWS LARGE ATTENDANCE

The April meeting of the Mid-State Club had a great turnout of 43 people! A letter from Sam Williams was read stating that the E.O.C. room and equipment be used for all club purposes. He also requests the radios be used for our Sunday nets to assure they are working properly.

Joan, N9DON discussed the importance of ARES and RACES being a part of all club activities. She is preparing some RACES materials to be handed out at one of the next meetings.

The club also received a letter wanting us to again work with the Equestrian event set for May 30th. NT9J is accepting names of hams willing to participate.

Chuck Crist WB9IHS presented his program on amateur TV in the recent balloon launches from Franklin High School. We saw slides and a video which included some views from the balloon package. Total cost for the two launches was \$ 9000 which was donated by some of the companies that made the equipment that was used.

Jack NT9J is to be congratulated for the calibre of programs he has been able to obtain for us lately! Good job Jack! He has a program set for May which will feature Bob Foster who was instrumental in getting health and welfare reports out of Kuwait during the Gulf war.

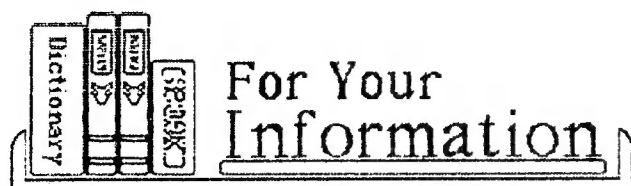
Some of the club business will be to make plans for Field Day, Masonic Home Day, and the Equestrian event. We hope to have a large turnout for the meeting to help make these important plans!



HAMS/TRAINS  
PART 2

As reported last month, in Oakland, Ca. the railroad net is on the 145.33 MHz repeater and the PL is set at 100 Hz. Amateur simplex frequencies for train chasing are 146.565 (alternate to 146.490), 223.620 MHz, 446.050 MHz and 1294.425 MHz.

As we say on the railroad, "Safety First" and 73, N9MKR.



Are you interested in the heritage of ham radio? Some of our club members can relate to the early days of spark gap operation. The club has recently obtained a video tape of a demonstration of early spark gap radio. The author explains how he built the many components of the working model and demonstrates their use with commentary on the problems early amateurs had in making all the different modules from makeshift materials. Very few things needed could be purchased! Coils wound on oatmeal boxes and capacitors made from window glass and tinfoil were only a few of the handmade items needed.

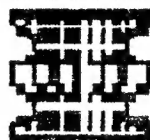
If you would like to see this video tape it will be presented as a program for the club at the June meeting. Afterwards if you would like a copy of the tape contact NV9K.

#### NEW MEMBERS

We have two new members to the club since the last newsletter. Lawrence Clingman, a recent new novice is retired and living in New Whiteland. His outside interests are accounting and light tax work. Does this give anyone any ideas? The other new member is Ralph Talbott, KB9HRV who is in insurance and lives in Indianapolis. You may recall that Ralph is the skipper of the ketch that Jack and Eric will be sailing on from Spain during the Columbus Celebration this fall. Hopefully some of us will be able to contact them during this event.



Mike KK9V and Eric KB9BGS announced plans to transmit on field day from the VE5 region of Canada. The novice class produced 8 new hams for the area. Andy Bowyer N9KZE was the newest member of the club. A detailed account of the first balloon launch from Franklin High school appeared in the Spark-Gap.



## MID-STATE CALENDAR MAY

- 16 Club Meeting and VE Testing  
Business: Assign Field Day Committees  
Program: Bob Foster; Ham in Gulf War  
30 Equestrian Event at Camp Atterbury

### JUNE

- 14 Masonic Home Event  
20 Club Meeting and VE Testing  
Business: Final Field Day Plans  
Program: Video Tape of Spark Gap

### JULY

- 18 Club Meeting and VE Testing  
Business: Appoint Nominating Committee

### AUGUST

- 15 Club Meeting and VE Testing  
Business: Present Nominating Slate and take any nominations from the floor.

### SEPTEMBER

- 19 Club Meeting and VE Testing  
Business: Ballot count and election of new officers.

### OCTOBER

- 17 Club Meeting and last 92 VE Testing  
Business: New Officers assume duties.